



**UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL LEADERS**

**New Generation
of Universal Local
Public Services**

**Tangier
Local4Action**

Women's Right to a Life Free from Violence

Dialogue

Date and time: Wednesday, 24 June 2026, 14:30 – 15:30

Duration: 60 minutes

Lead organizer (Name / Institution): Observatory on Violence Against Women of the Seine-Saint-Denis Departmental Council (Maïra Topall)

Co-organizers: UCLG

Background

Globally, one in three women has experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner (or former partner) at some point in her life. While the forms and manifestations of this violence vary across different regions of the world, it constitutes a serious violation of human rights everywhere.

In light of this reality, local governments have a vital role to play: understanding and measuring the scale of the phenomenon within their jurisdictions, raising awareness of the violence, and enhancing understanding among all local stakeholders in order to provide appropriate and coordinated responses.

It is with this in mind that in 2021, the Seine-Saint-Denis Departmental Council, through its Observatory on Violence Against Women and its Europe and International Division, launched the project "Toward Territories That Protect Women Victims of Violence." Co-financed by the French Development Agency and implemented with the support of UCLG's Commission on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy, and Human Rights (CISDPDH), this project aims to create and facilitate a global network of local governments committed to combating violence against women.

In 2024, during a knowledge-sharing seminar held in Bobigny, members of this network took a significant step forward by signing the International Charter "For Territories That Protect Women Victims of Violence."

Today, as part of the UCLG World Congress in Tangier, this session aims to promote this charter and continue the exchange of experiences among committed local governments. For violence against women is a global issue that calls for a collective response, based on



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cooperation, the exchange of best practices, and the sustained commitment of local governments.

Objectives / Expected outcomes

- Take stock of the progress made since the final seminar of the project "Toward Territories That Protect Women Victims of Violence" and highlight the practical lessons learned and implemented by member local governments.
- Increase visibility and promote the International Charter "For Territories That Protect Women Victims of Violence" to encourage new local governments to sign on.
- Highlight the tools developed as part of the "For Territories That Protect Women Victims of Violence" project (MOOC, fact sheets, newsletters) to support capacity building and knowledge sharing.
- Continue and consolidate the network dynamics among local governments committed to combating violence against women.
- Facilitate the exchange of best practices and the sharing of experiences among local governments.

Agenda

- Oriane Filhol - Vice President of the Seine-Saint-Denis Department, responsible for Social Services, Youth, and Anti-Discrimination
- Mohammed Jarrar – Mayor of Jenin (Palestine)
- Mayra Mendoza – Mayor of Quilmes (Argentina)
- Paola Pabon – Governor of Pichincha (Ecuador)
- Myriem Noussairi, Head of the UN Women Morocco Office
- Laura Capobianco, Senior Policy Advisor in the Ending Violence Against Women Section of the UN Women Morocco Office
- Juana Lopez Pagan, Advisor to the Office of the Secretary of State for Equality and the Eradication of Violence Against Women at the Spanish Ministry of Equality (Spain)